

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-16 (canceled)

17. (original) A disposable net assembly for a removal system for floating debris comprising:

- a knitted mesh net having a mouth at one end;
- a frame surrounding the mouth of the net, the frame having an upstream side and a downstream side, an inside and an outside;
- the frame being formed of four members including a top member, a bottom member and two side members;
- the frame having at least one clamping element and a plurality of projections extending either from the frame or the clamping element, the net being secured to the frame with the rim thereof extending over the projections between the clamping element and the frame and around the upstream side of the frame.

18. (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ assembly of claim 17 wherein:

- the frame is formed of a plastic material of four straight members including a top member, a bottom member and two side members, each member having a plurality of holes therein;
- the net is secured around its rim to the frame, with the mouth thereof extending from the downstream side thereof, around the outside of the frame, around the upstream side of the frame and over the plurality of holes; and
- the frame has at least one clamping element thereof having a plurality of posts projecting therefrom, said clamping element being secured to the members with the posts snapped into the holes and clamping the mouth of the net to the frame.

19. (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ assembly of claim 17 wherein:

- the side members of the frame are inwardly tapered in the downstream direction and wider, in the upstream-to-downstream direction, at the top than at the bottom.

20. (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~assembly of claim 17 wherein:

the at least one clamping element includes a set of four straight plates, each having posts projecting therefrom;
the holes are on the inside of the members; and
the plates clamp the mouth of the net to the frame along the inside of the members.

21. (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~assembly of claim 17 wherein:

the at least one clamping element includes a rectangular frame clamping portion having the posts thereon; the holes in the frame and the posts in the frame clamping portion facing in one of the upstream or downstream directions and clamps the mouth of the net therebetween.

22. (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~assembly of claim 17 wherein:

the projections extend outwardly from the outside of the frame and the clamping element is a tension band extending around the frame with the mouth of the net and the projections between the band and the frame.

23. (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~assembly of claim 17 wherein:

the projections extend outwardly from a groove around the outside of the frame and the clamping element is a tension band extending around the groove with the mouth of the net and the projections between the band and the frame.

24. (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~assembly of claim 17 wherein:

the net is formed of a high strength and high stretch yarn, with rolled sewn seams and having reinforcing on the seams and on high stress areas of the net.

25. (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~assembly of claim 17 wherein:

the frame having an upstream side and a downstream side, an inside and an outside, and being formed of four members including a top member, a bottom member and two

side members, the outside of the side members being tapered inwardly front-to-back and the upstream-downstream sides converging from top to bottom.

Claims 26-31 (canceled)

32. (new) A disposable net assembly for a removal system for floating debris comprising:

a rectangular frame formed of four members including a top member, a bottom member and two side members, each member having an upstream side and a downstream side, an inside and an outside;

a knitted mesh bag-shaped net having a mouth attached around the perimeter thereof to the four members of the frame; and

at least two of the members each having at least one side thereof that is tapered.

33. (new) The assembly of claim 32 wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the upstream and downstream sides thereof that converge from top to bottom.

34. (new) The assembly of claim 33 wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the upstream side thereof inclined downstream from top toward the bottom thereof.

35. (new) The assembly of claim 34 wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the outside thereof inclined inwardly from upstream to downstream sides thereof.

36. (new) The assembly of claim 35 wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the inside and the outside thereof that converge from upstream to downstream.

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37. (new) The assembly of claim **34** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the inside and the outside thereof that converge from upstream to downstream.

38. (new) The assembly of claim **33** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the inside and the outside thereof that converge from upstream to downstream.

39. (new) The assembly of claim **32** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the inside and the outside thereof that converge from upstream to downstream.

40. (new) The assembly of claim **39** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the outside thereof inclined inwardly from upstream to downstream sides thereof.

41. (new) The assembly of claim **40** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the upstream and downstream sides thereof that converge from top to bottom.

42. (new) The assembly of claim **40** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the upstream side thereof inclined downstream from top toward the bottom thereof.

43. (new) The assembly of claim **39** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the upstream side thereof inclined downstream from top toward the bottom thereof.

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44. (new) The assembly of claim **32** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the upstream side thereof inclined downstream from top toward the bottom thereof.

45. (new) The assembly of claim **44** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the outside thereof inclined inwardly from upstream to downstream sides thereof.

46. (new) The assembly of claim **32** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the outside thereof inclined inwardly from upstream to downstream sides thereof.

47. (new) The assembly of claim **46** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the upstream and downstream sides thereof that converge from top to bottom.

48. (new) The assembly of claim **47** wherein the at least two members having the at least one side that is tapered being the two side members each having the inside and the outside thereof that converge from upstream to downstream.